

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 L-03 FEA-01 ACDA-10

AGRE-00 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 ERDA-07

FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-14 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /159 W

-----074042 060101Z /75

P R 050340Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6554

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

UNCLAS SUVA 1208

MANILA FOR AMBASSADOR EDMOND/ADB

FROM USDEL/SPC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, XP

SUBJECT: SKIPJACK TUNA SURVEY

1. AT THE 17TH SOUTH PACIFIC OMISSION CONFERENCE IN PAGO PAGO, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DONOR COUNTRIES OF THE SKIPJACK TUNA SURVEY PROJECT HELD MEETINGS ON 23 AND 28 SEPTEMBER TO DISCUSS: (1) TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE INTER-GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE, AND (2) THE GENERAL STATUS OF THE PROJECT.

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2. ALTHOUGH SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES OF DONOR GOVERNMENTS HAD NOT BEEN BRIEFED ON THE QUESTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (AGAC) ALL GOVERNMENTS AGREED UPON THE NEED FOR SUCH A COMMITTEE AND AGREED THAT A NUMBER OF MATTERS COULD BE DECIDED UPON BY REFERENDUM TO GOVERNMENTS.

3. THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR (PC) EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM HAD PROCEEDED AS SCHEDULED. HE INDICATED THAT CONFIRMED COMMITMENTS SLIGHTLY EXCEEDED THE BUDGETED COST OF THE PROGRAM IN 1977/1978 BUT THAT INFLATION COULD INFLUENCE THE PROGRAM'S ACTIVITIES IN THE SECOND AND THIRD YEARS OF THE PROGRAM. BECAUSE THE PROGRAM HAD COMMENCED ONE YEAR LATER THAN ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED, A SHORTFALL OF APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT WAS POSSIBLE IN THE LATER STAGES OF THE PROGRAM. ALSO ADDITIONAL FUNDING WAS NEEDED FOR THE TISSUE AND BLOOD SAMPLE ANALYSIS, AS MENTIONED IN THE REVISED BUDGET. IN ORDER TO COVER THESE ITEMS SPC REQUESTED THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SURVEY. GERMANY THEN REQUESTED THAT DONOR COUNTRIES INDICATE THAT THEY SUPPORT GERMANY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE VROGRAM. AS SUCH, SVC REQUESTS THAT DONOR COUNTRIES ENCOURAGE BONN BY CABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROGRAM.

4. THE PC INDICATED THAT CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE CHARTER OF THE VESSEL AND TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF THREE OF THE PROGRAM STAFF HAD BEEN SIGNED AND RECRUITING OF ADDITIONAL POSITIONS WAS CONTINUING. THE PC REQUESTED THAT DONOR GOVERNMENTS ADVERTISE FOR THE FISHERIES RESEARCH SCIENTIST POSITIONS. HE INDICATED THAT IN THE EVENT THAT SUITABLE SENIOR APPLICANTS COULD NOT BE FOUND, A RESHUFFLING OF STAFF WOULD BE REQUIRED.

5. THE ONLY PROBLEM TO DATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATCON OF THE PROGRUM WAS WITH THE PROCUREMENT OF THE VLASTIC TAGS. THE COMPANY
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CONTRACTED TO SUPPLY THE TAGS WAS HAVING DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING PLASTIC TUBING OF SUFFICIENT QUALITY TO QITHSTAND THE EXTREMELY LOW TEMPERATKRES USED FOR FREEZING FISH ON MODERN FISHING VESSELS. SUITABLE TAGS SHOULD BE AVAILABLENWITHIN A WEEK BUT IN THE INTERIM PERIOD ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO BORROW TAGS FROM THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA GOVERNMENT.

6. THE SCHEDULE FOR THE VESSEL'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST FIVE-MONTH CHARTER PERIOD HAD COMMENCED AND WERE PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SECOND FIVE-MONTH CHARTER PERIOD HAD COMMENCED. SOME DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN HELD ON THIS MATTER WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF TERRIOTIRES AND COUNTRIES AT THE SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE.

7. THE ANNUAL REPORT WOULD BE PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY THEV SECRETARIAT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING TO THE CGAC. ALSO QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE PROGRAM'S ACTIVITIES WOKLD BE TRANSMITTED TO DONOR GOVERNMENTS AND TO ALL CSLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES OF THE SPC, ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE TERMS OF REFERENCE:
(1) TO REVIEW, EXAMINE AND ACCEPT THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND REPORT OF THE COMMISSION'S AUDITORS;
(2) TO REVIEW THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF THE SKIPJACK TUNA

SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM;

(3) TO REVIEW PROGRESS ON THE STAFFING OF THE PROGRAM;

(4) TO REVIEW PROGRESS ON THE CHARTER AGREEMENTS FOR THE
RESEARCH VESSEL AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS CONCERNING MOVEMENT
OF VESSEL AND CREW;

(5) EXAMINE A PROGRESS REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE
SKIPJACK TUNA SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM PREPARED BY THE
SPC SECRETARIAT.

8. GUIDELINES FOR AUDITING OF THE PROGRAM'S ACCOUNTS WERE
CONSIDERED. SPC'S FINANCIAL (CALENDAR) YEAR WAS ADOPTED AND A
SEPARATE FINANCIAL YEAR WOULD BE COMMENCED ON JANUARY 1, 1978.
SPC WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE QUARTERLY BUDGETARY STATEMENTS TO THE
IGAC. IN ADDITION, SPC WOULD PREPARE PROGRESS REPORTS OF PROGRAM
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ACTIVITIES ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

9. THE PC CONFIRMED THAT THE PROGRAM PROPOSAL PREPARED IN
OCTOBER 1975 IS STILL VALID EXCEPT FOR THE REVISED BUDGET.
SPC WILL BE DRAWING UP AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE NEXT
YEAR AND ANY SIGNIFICANT VARIATION IN THE PROGRAM -- EITHER
BUDGETARY OR PROGRAMMATIC WOULD BE REPORTED TO THE IGAC.

10. THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE SUGGESTED THAT FOR THE RETURN
OF TAGS AND ASSOCIATED INFORMATION, CLOSE COOPERATION WITH
EXTRA-REGIONAL FISHING NATIONS WAS REQUIRED. THE PC INDICATED
THAT AN EXTENSIVE PROMOTION PROGRAM HAD BEEN COMMENCED:

(1) COMMUNICATION WITH ALL LIKELY SOURCES OF TAG RETURN
INFORMATION HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED

;

(2) 5,000 POSTERS DESCRIBING THE PROGRAM AND INFORMATION REQUESTS
HAD BEEN PRINTED, POSTERS WERE TRANSLATED INTO JAPANESE AND
WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL APPROPRIATE JAPANESE FISHING
PERSONNEL;

(3) LOTTERY TO ENCOURAGE THE RETURN OF TAGS IS PLANNED.

11. THE NEXT IGAC MEETING WOULD INCLUDE DETAILS OF THE COOPERATIVE
ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE PROGRAM AND OTHER RESEARCH
ORGANIZATIONS.
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1022482
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SKIPJACK TUNA SURVEY
TAGS: EAID, XP
To: STATE WELLINGTON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8aecf236-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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